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(74) Agents: **TRIPOLI, Joseph, S.** et al.; Two Independence Way, Suite #200, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THOMSON LICENSING S.A.** [FR/FR]; 46, Quai A. Le Gallo, F-92100 Boulogne-Billancourt (FR).

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(72) Inventors; and

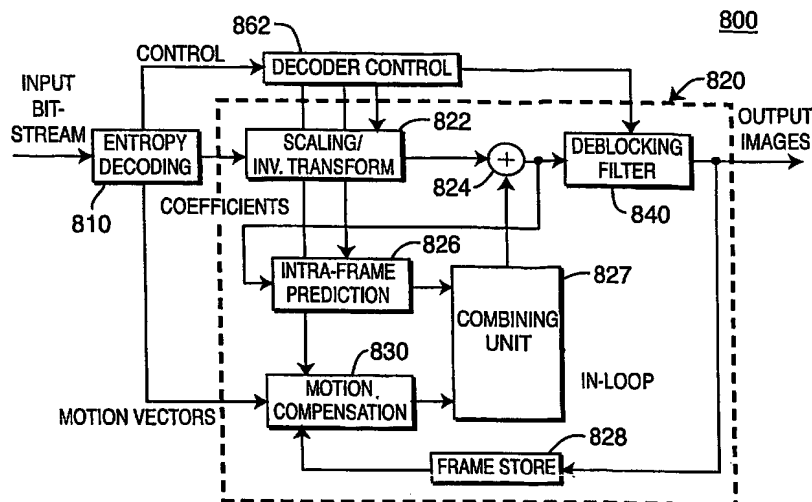
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **TOURAPIS, Alexandros** [GR/US]; 20212 Heather Drive, West Windsor, NJ 08550 (US). **BOYCE, Jill, MacDonald** [US/US]; 3 Brandywine Court, Manalapan, NJ 07726 (US). **YIN, Peng** [CN/US]; 5508 Hunters Glen Drive, Plainsboro, NJ 08536 (US).

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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DECODING HYBRID INTRA-INTER CODED BLOCKS



(57) Abstract: A hybrid intra-inter bi-predictive (or multi-predictive) coding mode allows both intraframe (intra) (301 in FIG. 5) and interframe (inter) (302 in FIG. 5) predictions to be combined together for hybrid-encoding a current macroblock or a subblock (310 in FIG. 5). Bi-prediction may be used also in I-pictures, combining two intra predictions that use two different intra prediction directions. A video encoder (700) processes data representing a two-dimensional video image which has been produced by a conventional commercially available video camera. The video encoder is adapted to select, for coding a current macroblock, between an intra encoding mode, an P-frame inter encoding mode, a B-frame bi-predictive inter mode, and a hybrid intra-inter bi-predictive encoding mode. A video decoder (800) receives and decodes a data stream that may contain a block/macroblock encoded in accordance with the hybrid intra-inter bi-predictive encoding mode.



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*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*